



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service



New  
England



# Crop Progress & Condition

Gary Keough, State Statistician

53 Pleasant St. Room 3450, Concord, NH 03301

Phone: 603-224-9639

Fax: 603-225-1432

[www.nass.usda.gov/nh](http://www.nass.usda.gov/nh)

Week ending May 22, 2016

Issued weekly on the internet, April - November  
by the Northeastern Regional Field Office of NASS

[nassrfoner@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nassrfoner@nass.usda.gov)

Released May 23, 2016

**Excellent week for field work:** New England averaged 6.0 days suitable for field work last week.

Cooler, dry conditions continued last week throughout much of New England. The average weekly temperatures ranged from nine degrees below normal to three degrees above normal in the six states. Weekly precipitation ranged from 0.00 to 1.03 inches. Field work continued this past week with the dry conditions. In some areas, the first cuttings of hay were taking place. Field corn was just starting to emerge throughout the region. Farmers remained busy planting vegetables, tilling, disking, fertilizing, and applying herbicides; however, there was some concern that conditions were becoming too dry in certain locations. Orchardists applied fungicides, fertilized, and pruned fruit crops. Some fruit growers were still assessing winter damage to fruit crops, with peaches and other tree fruit having been most affected. In Massachusetts, cranberry growers continued to protect crops against frost conditions as well as spring caterpillars of winter and gypsy moths. Farmers' markets were starting to open throughout the region.

## Crop Progress as of May 22, 2016

(in percent)

Item	This Week
APPLES: GREEN TIP	92
APPLES: PINK	77
APPLES: FULL BLOOM	53
APPLES: PETAL FALL	14
BLUEBERRIES, TAME: GREEN TIP	91
BLUEBERRIES, TAME: PINK	69
BLUEBERRIES, TAME: FULL BLOOM	31
BLUEBERRIES, TAME: PETAL FALL	6
BLUEBERRIES, WILD (ME): GREEN TIP	88
BLUEBERRIES, WILD (ME): PINK	74
BLUEBERRIES, WILD (ME): FULL BLOOM	23
CORN: PLANTED	42
CORN: EMERGED	5
CRANBERRIES (MA): GREEN TIP	91
CRANBERRIES (MA): PINK	10
PEACHES: GREEN TIP	95
PEACHES: PINK	78
PEACHES: FULL BLOOM	49
PEACHES: PETAL FALL	27
PEARS: GREEN TIP	87
PEARS: PINK	59
PEARS: FULL BLOOM	45
PEARS: PETAL FALL	17
POTATOES (CT, ME, NH, VT): PLANTED	20
SPRING TILLAGE: SINGLE	68
STRAWBERRIES: GREEN TIP	84
STRAWBERRIES: PINK	58
STRAWBERRIES: FULL BLOOM	19
SWEET CORN: PLANTED	42

## Soil Moisture for Week Ending May 22, 2016

(in percent)

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
TOPSOIL	2	22	67	9
SUBSOIL	0	18	76	6

## Crop Conditions as of May 22, 2016

(in percent)

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
DRY HAY	0	1	19	75	6
PASTURE AND RANGE	2	24	19	52	4
QUALITY OF HAY MADE	0	0	5	90	5
RYE (ME)	0	0	0	20	80

For a complete nationwide weekly weather and crop bulletin, please visit [www.usda.gov/oc/weather](http://www.usda.gov/oc/weather) and click on "[Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin.](#)"

**May 22, 2016 New England Weekly Weather Summary**

		Last Week Weather Summary						Accumulation Since April 1, 2016					
		Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
State	Station	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
Maine	Augusta_State_A	78	38	55	-2	0.04	1	4.10	-2.50	16	139	+17	448
	Bangor_Intl_Air	83	40	57	+2	0.18	2	4.55	-1.17	20	165	+61	477
	Bethel	77	35	52	-5	0.05	1	4.09	-2.45	17	107	+2	351
	Bridgton	79	35	53	-4	0.19	2	4.81	-1.81	16	107	+20	362
	Caribou_Municip	81	32	53	-1	1.03	2	5.31	+0.36	15	114	+48	325
	Dover-Foxcroft	80	32	52	-2	0.19	2	4.54	-1.75	20	85	+34	319
	Durham	79	39	54	-2	0.02	1	4.31	-3.10	17	113	+28	412
	East_Surry	74	37	53	-3	0.00	0	6.01	-0.93	22	67	-12	331
	Eustis	77	31	48	-4	0.27	3	4.37	-1.14	20	50	+17	227
	Frenchville	79	32	52	+2	0.78	2	3.40	-1.65	17	85	+41	268
	Harmony	80	32	53	-3	0.11	1	5.10	-1.25	17	99	+16	371
	Houlton	81	31	53	-1	0.52	2	4.94	-0.15	18	99	+34	322
	Livermore_Falls	79	36	52	-2	0.13	2	4.82	-2.02	16	93	+35	345
	Millinocket_Wtr	80	35	50	-5	0.62	1	5.07	-1.12	13	70	-9	272
	Moosehead	72	31	47	-4	0.24	2	4.44	-1.62	17	46	+13	235
	Portland_ME	76	40	55	+1	0.01	1	3.26	-3.75	17	119	+36	436
	Rangeley_2NW	73	29	46	-6	0.04	2	4.29	-1.21	20	41	0	204
	Sanford	76	29	53	-6	0.12	1	3.68	-3.63	16	134	-8	428
	Topsfield_2	82	34	54	0	0.63	3	6.33	-0.07	17	96	+31	334
	Turner	78	36	54	-4	0.01	1	5.07	-1.71	16	124	-18	391
	Wesley_2W	85	34	54	0	0.05	1	5.60	-0.67	12	89	+29	343
	West_Rockport	78	39	55	+2	0.03	1	5.05	-2.82	18	100	+36	368
	Whiting	78	36	55	+3	0.24	2	5.53	-2.29	17	88	+47	377
New Hampshire	Berlin_AG	76	34	50	-5	0.25	4	4.84	-0.80	20	86	0	321
	Bradford_2	74	35	51	-8	0.69	1	3.97	-3.02	15	83	-77	339
	Colebrook	75	31	49	-5	0.24	2	5.08	-0.22	21	65	-6	239
	Concord	78	33	56	-2	0.19	2	3.41	-2.06	20	187	+46	530
	East_Milford	74	37	55	-4	0.08	1	2.93	-3.55	19	167	+1	520
	Epping	75	33	55	-4	0.00	0	3.95	-2.83	21	146	+4	472
	Errol_AP	75	31	47	-5	0.13	2	5.23	+0.06	20	53	+11	237
	Greenville	74	34	53	-4	0.29	1	3.89	-2.48	18	127	+17	438
	Hancock	74	35	53	-5	0.07	2	3.68	-3.09	20	116	-3	403
	Jaffrey_Silver_	73	35	54	-3	0.30	1	3.53	-2.84	19	140	+30	468
	Jefferson	75	32	50	-7	0.39	3	5.59	+0.33	21	88	-27	318
	Keene_AG	76	37	53	-5	0.09	1	3.25	-2.82	18	115	-20	436
	Lakeport_2	78	37	55	-3	0.20	2	3.78	-2.13	18	157	+22	479
	Lebanon	76	32	54	-4	0.08	3	4.15	-1.19	20	161	+37	469
	North_Conway	79	32	54	-3	0.05	1	4.46	-2.43	17	140	+28	407
	Tamworth_4	75	35	53	-2	0.42	2	5.44	-1.99	21	94	+24	340
	Wolfeburro	75	39	55	-3	0.12	3	3.58	-2.33	19	143	+8	468
Vermont	Averill	74	28	46	-5	0.41	2	4.78	-1.21	16	42	+16	187
	Bennington_AP	72	33	52	-4	0.07	2	4.66	-2.29	22	149	+43	491
	Burlington_Intl	77	36	55	-4	0.04	1	3.55	-1.68	20	166	+8	468
	Corinth	75	32	49	-8	0.59	3	4.98	+0.11	19	59	-59	278
	Johnson_2N	73	30	49	-6	0.43	3	5.62	-0.14	18	76	-14	293
	Marlboro_Raws	74	33	53	-2	0.14	1	5.73	+0.67	22	123	+41	420
	Montpelier_AP	73	32	50	-6	0.29	3	4.39	-0.48	21	95	-23	337
	Newport_AG	75	32	49	-9	0.13	2	4.27	-1.22	18	77	-75	286

		Last Week Weather Summary						Accumulation Since April 1, 2016					
		Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
State	Station	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
	Rochester	74	34	51	-5	0.22	2	4.08	-2.61	17	82	-22	337
	Rutland_AG	73	34	51	-8	0.15	3	4.15	-1.12	22	93	-80	374
	Springfield_VT	73	36	54	-4	0.15	1	3.20	-3.70	18	130	+19	440
	South_Lincoln	70	30	48	-7	0.65	2	4.37	-2.87	17	61	-12	286
	Sutton	74	25	48	-5	0.37	2	7.05	+1.67	22	63	-7	277
	Walden	71	26	46	-8	0.28	3	6.11	+0.73	23	32	-38	200
	Woodstock	75	33	52	-5	0.05	1	4.06	-2.20	17	109	-3	388
Massachusetts	Amherst	75	38	55	-5	0.09	1	4.34	-2.44	19	164	-7	542
	Barre_Falls_Dam	74	35	54	-3	0.23	1	4.82	-1.80	24	123	+27	432
	Bedford_Hanscom	76	39	56	-3	0.03	1	3.89	-2.76	21	182	0	563
	Beverly_Ag	76	41	55	-4	0.00	0	4.26	-2.39	19	112	-67	449
	Birch_Hill_Dam	73	36	54	-3	0.50	1	3.77	-2.57	20	125	+29	451
	Boston_Logan_In	76	42	57	-3	0.00	0	4.30	-1.58	19	206	+1	609
	Chatham_AP	69	42	55	+1	0.25	2	6.91	+0.32	22	114	+32	462
	Chicopee_Westov	76	36	56	-4	0.04	1	3.42	-3.36	20	199	+28	583
	Edgartown	72	43	57	-1	0.13	3	7.36	+0.62	25	137	+11	528
	East_Brimfield_	74	37	54	-4	0.20	2	5.62	-1.14	25	136	0	478
	Fitchburg	76	39	58	-2	0.30	1	3.32	-3.80	18	218	+39	613
	Greenfield	78	38	56	-3	0.09	2	4.12	-2.66	23	168	-3	523
	Hyannis_AP	70	43	56	-1	0.07	1	6.97	+0.94	22	126	+19	489
	Maynard	75	38	57	-2	0.20	1	4.81	-1.84	20	193	+11	573
	New_Bedford	74	39	57	-3	0.02	1	5.70	-1.24	21	161	-20	542
	Newburyport	74	40	55	-4	0.01	1	3.66	-3.43	22	137	-28	476
	North_Adams_Har	72	34	52	-4	0.00	0	4.30	-3.50	21	146	+47	487
	Norwood	76	38	56	-4	0.24	1	3.36	-3.17	19	191	-10	579
	Pittsfield	71	35	52	-6	0.00	0	4.30	-3.15	20	121	-10	454
	Plymouth	72	39	56	-3	0.02	1	5.07	-2.17	22	148	-8	504
	Taunton_4NW	76	40	58	-2	0.07	1	5.83	-0.81	25	188	+11	575
	Westfield_Barne	76	35	56	-2	0.03	1	3.83	-3.56	20	204	+75	595
	West_Otis	74	38	54	-3	0.09	1	4.75	-3.24	24	144	+31	513
	Worcester	71	35	56	-3	0.19	1	4.55	-2.46	22	172	+28	526
	Worthington	74	34	52	-5	0.09	2	5.26	-2.22	23	100	-10	393
Rhode Island	Newport_AP	72	42	56	-2	0.03	3	5.11	-1.67	23	139	+1	529
	Providence	76	41	58	-3	0.01	1	5.40	-1.37	23	221	+7	634
	Westerly-Wester	74	43	57	-2	0.00	0	5.88	-1.03	21	162	-5	563
	Woonsocket	75	40	57	-2	0.19	1	6.58	-0.36	19	179	-1	571
Connecticut	Bridgeport_Siko	74	43	58	-3	0.02	1	4.61	-2.23	23	239	+15	679
	Danbury_AP	74	38	55	-6	0.07	1	4.63	-2.98	23	186	-36	594
	Hartford_Bradle	76	38	57	-5	0.00	0	4.22	-2.78	20	238	-19	657
	Meriden-Meriden	76	39	57	-2	0.04	1	3.34	-4.63	22	226	+44	650
	Norfolk	74	35	53	-4	0.00	0	4.88	-3.11	18	113	0	431
	Norwich	74	42	58	-4	0.00	0	5.55	-1.96	20	204	-26	614
	Staffordville	72	35	53	-6	0.15	1	6.01	-1.28	21	103	-53	437
	Thomaston_Dam	75	37	56	-3	0.02	1	4.82	-2.67	25	164	+7	551
	West_Thompson_L	72	38	55	-4	0.10	1	5.93	-1.26	18	142	-10	500
	Willimantic	77	40	58	0	0.06	1	4.96	-2.33	21	239	+83	660

Summary based on NWS data. DFN = Departure From Normal.  
Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.  
Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.  
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## REPORTERS COMMENTS, By County

*Reporters are from Extension Service (Ext), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Farm Service Agency (FSA), Conservation District (CD), farmers, commodity specialists, or other knowledgeable individuals.*

### CONNECTICUT

LITCHFIELD, Richard Meinert

Corn is emerging. Planting continues around first cutting haylage harvest. Orchard grass is heading out on the short side.

WINDHAM, Dawn S. Pindell

A good week for field activities. Planting corn, chopping first cutting, getting vegetable beds planted. Full moon on Saturday, signaled getting things planted now that most danger of frost is past.

### MAINE

CUMBERLAND/YORK, Sandy Truslow

The area hasn't received any significant rainfall in weeks. Irrigation is needed on newly planted seedlings. Hay has started to be cut. Field work is progressing. Petal fall on apple trees.

FRANKLIN, Gary J. Raymond

It was another great week for field work. Apple blossoms look good and weather is looking good for busy bees.

PENOBSCOT/PISCATAQUIS, Donna Coffin

Great progress on field work. Many farmers' markets started last weekend.

SOMERSET, Kathy Hopkins

Tillage and planting underway. Conditions becoming very dry.

### MASSACHUSETTS

ALL MA COUNTIES, Tom Smiarowski

Cooler than normal temps especially during early part of last week continues to slow crop growth. Planting of corn and vegetable crops progressing very well. About a third of Massachusetts listed as "Abnormally Dry" on U.S. Drought Monitor. Potatoes emergence noted during the past week. Hay being harvested for haylage has begun across the state.

FRANKLIN, James M. Newland

Lack of heat during days this spring and a late frost have slowed the asparagus crop yield, down 50% compared to this time last year. Producers are anticipating a rebound for the crop with a warm-up in the forecast. Elsewhere, field work has commenced in earnest with farmers spreading fertilizer, tilling, and laying plastic and drip irrigation. Small vegetable crops are being planted successively. Sweet, grain, and silage corn are being planted. Work in orchards pruning, fertilizing, and applying fungicides continues while the apple and pear trees have set fruit following full bloom.

HAMPSHIRE/HAMPDEN, Heather Baylis

A week of low 70s temperature with little rain. Producers continue to watch night temperatures carefully. First cutting haylage is starting. All spring activities are in full gear and with the call for warmer temperatures next week even more crops will be going into the ground. This week producers have started reporting losses on Tree fruit to the office. All tree fruit was affected with devastation in the peaches and other tree fruit sustaining approximately 50-60% losses.

PLYMOUTH, Carolyn DeMoranville

Continued dry conditions with a bit warmer weather. Cranberry growers continue to need to protect the plants from frost conditions as they battle spring caterpillars of winter moth and gypsy moth.

### NEW HAMPSHIRE

BELKNAP/HILLSBOROUGH/MERRIMACK, Donna Juneau

The week started off colder than average but warmed up to slightly above average temperatures. Much needed rain fell on Thursday, May 19 about two tenths of an inch. Producers have been out planting field corn and some sweet corn and have reported that they will likely start first cutting of hay this week.

BELKNAP, Kelly McAdam

Apple bloom is reduced in the orchards I have been visiting.

CHESHIRE, Carl Majewski

Sunny weather all week, with just a couple of brief showers in the second half. Hayfields and pastures growing well, grazing is in full swing, and some fields are ready for first cutting. Great progress planting corn all week, and first-planted fields are popping up. Planting, etc. continues on veggie operations.

COOS, Steve Turaj

Good week for field work, corn planting ongoing, barley other grains also. Meadows growing nicely; dandelions in full bloom. Apples about half bloom, half pink.

HILLSBOROUGH, George Hamilton

Fruits: Still assessing winter injury to fruit crops. Many apples had a weak bloom - damage to the king blossom at some clusters, damage to side blossoms at other clusters and both in other clusters and/or varieties. No peach bloom in orchards due to damage by winter temperatures. Apples are at petal fall and growers determining what they should use to thin apples. Blueberry is at full bloom. Strawberry is starting to bloom. Orchardists are applying protective fungicide sprays on fruit trees and blueberries. Field Crops: Farmers are plowing, disking, fertilizing, planting corn, and applying herbicides to fields dry enough to get on. Pastures and hayfields starting to look good. Vegetables: Continued planting vegetables, along with successive planting of sweet corn. Laying plastic mulch and drip irrigation tape. Harvesting spinach, asparagus, and rhubarb.

**ROCKINGHAM, Nada Haddad**

Good week for field work. Planting different vegetable crops, fertilizing, weeding, irrigating. Picking cucumbers and cherry tomatoes from greenhouses; radish and asparagus. Monitoring pests in fruit orchards and small fruit gardens and spraying protective fungicides. First hay crop will be ready in few days.

## **RHODE ISLAND**

**ALL RI COUNTIES, George Goulart**

Weather continues to warm, and we could use some rain. Farmers are planting corn, beans, squash, cucumbers, and tomatoes.

## **VERMONT**

**BENNINGTON/RUTLAND, Tina Williams**

Another good weather week for getting corn planted and some have started chopping first cutting.

**FRANKLIN, Paul Stanley**

Franklin County, Vermont is in full bloom this week. Corn planting is progressing great and some rain early in the week combined with late week higher temps have made for great grass growth. Gardens are now being planted with some good weather throughout the weekend that brought folks out of the house and into the yards. Pastures are doing fantastic with nice weather, making for good progress on fence repairs and cattle out on the ground.

**ORLEANS, David Blodgett**

Weather conditions varied widely this past week with snow on May 16 to summer weather over the weekend. Activities this past week included corn and grass seeding. First crop hay harvest will begin soon. Most farms have started grazing.